



# County of San Diego

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

### **Stormwater Management Requirements for Masonry Activities in the Unincorporated Areas of San Diego County**

Business owner or operator:

This is to inform you of recently adopted stormwater management requirements that may affect your businesses activities. As of February 2001, the County of San Diego, as well as the Port of San Diego and the eighteen cities within the County, is required to comply with a revised Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. To meet these directives, the County and other jurisdictions must require that businesses operating within their jurisdictions take certain precautions to prevent the entry of pollutants into the stormwater conveyance ("storm drain") system and receiving waters (creeks, streams, bays, etc.).

The businesses addressed by this program include masonry. If you are providing masonry services in unincorporated areas of the County, you must comply with the specific conditions listed below. Failure to do so may result in enforcement by the County.

- You must cover or otherwise protect storm drain inlets located within or down gradient of work areas to prevent the entry of wash water or other materials.
- You must routinely clean work areas using dry methods (e.g., sweeping, etc.).
- You may not use wet methods (e.g., hosing, steam-cleaning, pressure-washing, etc.) to clean work areas unless you have taken adequate precautions to prevent the entry of wash water and other contaminants into the stormwater conveyance system or receiving waters.
- You must divert wash water from storm drains, and direct it to the sanitary sewer or landscaping, where approved.
- You must cover materials (e.g., with a tarp) and store them above ground to prevent their contact with stormwater.
- You must keep stockpiles of sand out of drainage systems. Prior to the onset of predicted rain, you must cover and berm stockpiles to prevent their contact with stormwater.

If you are not conducting business in unincorporated areas of the County, these requirements do not apply to you. However, please be aware that similar requirements have been adopted by the Port District and the eighteen cities in the region. In all instances, it is illegal to dispose of wastewater to the stormwater conveyance system or to a receiving water. It is additionally your responsibility to know the specific local requirements of any jurisdiction in which you are conducting business. A list of stormwater program contacts for each of these jurisdictions is provided with this letter.

Following the simple practices described above will help to ensure that your business does not contribute to the pollution of our local water bodies. Additional requirements applicable to activities conducted in the unincorporated County are contained in the County's Watershed Protection, Stormwater Management, and Discharge Control Ordinance No. 9518. Copies of this ordinance, as well as useful other information on local water quality issues, can be obtained on the County's Project Clean Water website (<http://www.projectcleanwater.org>).

We appreciate your cooperation. Please call the Stormwater Hotline at 1-888-846-0800 with any questions you may have. Our staff will be happy to provide you additional information.